THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
The Health Sciences University of the State of Georgia

Today

Volume 22, Number 1 Fall 1993

1992-93 Annual Report

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THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
The Health Sciences University of the State of Georgia

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Volume 22, Number 1 Fall 1993

Introduction

Dr. Howard Rasmussen, director of MCG's new Institute of Molecular Medicine and Genetics, recalls the time, not long ago at all, when scientists thought cells "just sat there and behaved themselves like a piece of lead pipe."

Now we know better, thanks in large part to Dr. Rasmussen, who has spearheaded the understanding of cells' intricate and elegant communications system that keeps the body humming. It's a fascinating field of science that promises to truly revolutionize medicine. His research, and that of his team, are profiled in this annual report edition of *Medical College of Georgia Today*.

Also featured is a stellar example of the commitment of MCG alumni to wellness and rural health care. We acquaint you with Dr. F. Stuart Sanders, who declined his father's offer to join his lucrative Atlanta practice because he preferred to head for rural country and serve those most in need. His approach to medicine—which includes twice-weekly volleyball games with his patients—typifies the standards this institution strives to instill in each student.

As always, this annual report also provides an opportunity to extend our most heartfelt thanks to our many generous donors—groups and individuals who have invested in the future of every Georgian by enabling this institution to set our sights ever higher. We hope that as you read this magazine, you'll get a sense of just what your contributions make possible.

Sincerely,

Francis J. Tedesco

Francis J. Tedesco, M.D.
President, Medical College of Georgia

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About the Cover

This digitized image is a color-enhanced, three-dimensional view of a brain abnormality after obscuring portions of the anatomy have been removed. This image can be rotated and viewed from any angle, giving the surgeon a preview of what will be seen in surgery. See *Getting the Picture* on page 8.

MCG President: Francis J. Tedesco, M.D.
Executive Editor: James B. Osborne, Ed.D.
Director of Marketing and Public Relations: George H. Foster
Editor: Christine Hurley Deriso
Art Director: Brent D. Burch
Photographers: Phil Jones, Will Willner

The Medical College of Georgia is the health sciences university of the University System of Georgia. Focusing on health-care education, research and patient care, the Augusta-based institution consists of MCG Hospital, more than 80 support clinics, statewide outreach programs and the Schools of Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Graduate Studies, Medicine and Nursing.

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Body Language

Dr. Howard Rasmussen recalls the time, not long ago at all, when scientists thought cells "just sat there and behaved themselves like a piece of lead pipe."

Now he knows that nothing could be further from the truth.

Dr. Rasmussen, director of the Medical College of Georgia Institute of Molecular Medicine and Genetics, has discovered that cells, the lowest common denominator of all living things, are full of intrigue and energy. Among their many powers is the ability to communicate—to deliver intricate messages that keep the body humming.

"All the cells in the body talk to one another," he said. "These conversations are extremely complex." Dr. Rasmussen has devoted his work to deciphering what he refers to as this most "elegant" of languages.

The cells' communications system inextricably links the work of a single organ to the rest of the body.

For instance, "although heart cells are primarily a pump, they also make chemicals that go elsewhere in the body," said Dr. Rasmussen, who came to MCG in the spring from Yale University. Some cells respond to the chemicals and some don't. "Whether other cells respond to their signals depends on whether they have receptors for it. It's like putting a key in a door. If it doesn't fit, you can't open the door. If a cell doesn't have a receptor, it won't respond (to another cell's signals)."

Endothelial cells, those which line blood vessels, act as bouncers; they monitor some 50 signals that other cells send their way and determine which signals they will grant admission to. Their behavior is controlled by the number and order in which these signals reach them.

"It used to be thought that endothelial cells simply formed a barrier between the blood plasma and tissue fluids," Dr. Rasmussen said. "But we know now that these cells act as information processors."

Because of the messages cells send throughout the body, Dr. Rasmussen believes that researching single organs or body systems is inherently somewhat futile. "Presently, we think about disease in terms of disordered structure," he said. "But it's really due to disordered communication. Disordered structure is the end result."

His own research into diabetes, for instance, relies just as heavily on an understanding of the brain as of the pancreas. Adult-onset diabetes results when the body's pancreas produces insulin inefficiently. Traditional research into the disease has focused exclusively on the pancreas, but Dr. Rasmussen's pursuit of cell-signaling led him to the brain.

"It used to be thought that insulin production worked kind of like the thermostat on your wall," Dr. Rasmussen said. Eating results in insulin production, the pancreas' response to regulate sugar levels in the body. But the pancreas isn't working alone.

"Actually, brain signals are involved in regulating insulin secretion," he said. The brain delivers two signals that prepare cells to produce insulin—"sort of like waking the army up and getting

everybody going. The signals from the brain have primed the cells to respond to glucose, which is a poison to most cells in the body. It's this elegant mechanism that goes wrong in diabetes—the way the brain signals are read, resulting in an altered pattern of insulin secretion."

By studying animal models, Dr. Rasmussen and his associates have identified a key regulating protein in the process: kinase C. "Kinase C plays a critical role in this priming event," he said. "If activated for a short period of time, it primes cells to respond to small changes in glucose concentration, which in turn regulates insulin secretion. If primed longer than that, it does just the opposite."

What causes this priming event to go awry? "It's a disease of civilization," Dr. Rasmussen said, noting that the body was never meant to endure such insults as a steady diet of junk food. "That's the problem of genetic research: it doesn't account for environmental changes, which change physiologic processes."

Indeed, he said, more apt than asking why the system breaks down is appreciating the fact that it usually doesn't. "What's amazing is how this wonderful communications system functions for 70 or 80 years," he said.

He hopes his research into kinase C, for which he has developed a marker to chart its course through the cells, will result in manipulating the system to treat the root of adult-onset diabetes.

And when he's not busy in his own lab, Dr. Rasmussen oversees the work of his 12-member research team, all of whom are pursuing different aspects of cell-signaling. The group is housed in the Carl T. Sanders Research and Education Building until MCG's new research facility is constructed. "The way this institute functions is that there will be research themes. The first is cell-signaling. The whole idea is that cell-signaling is basically the same whether you're talking about the gastrointestinal tract or the nervous system. We've brought talented young people together for them to interact for the benefit of the university." (Read about one such example in the adjoining article, *The Making of a Spasm.*)

The researchers will pursue different pathologies, but with the understanding that their work is ultimately supportive of a larger understanding of the very basis of the workings of the human body. "It's our belief that understanding cell-signaling is the way to understand and re-interpret how disease develops," Dr. Rasmussen said. ■

—CHRISTINE HURLEY DERISO

The Making of a Spasm

A Medical College of Georgia researcher is probing spasms within vessels that can choke the flow of blood to vital organs.

Vessels, the pathways through which blood travels, contain layers of muscle. These muscles, like others, can contract, or spasm—for instance, when the site is cut or otherwise injured. The response is a protective mechanism; the spasm clamps the vessel and helps minimize blood loss. "Spasms can be very natural and beneficial," said Dr. Colleen Marie Brophy, an assistant professor of surgery and a researcher in the Institute of Molecular Medicine and Genetics at the Medical College of Georgia.

But spasms can also be deadly. Any vessel can spasm, including vessels that supply blood to the brain, heart and other vital organs. The resulting blood shortage to those organs can cause damage and even death. Blood loss to the brain, for instance, can result in a stroke. Blood loss to the heart can cause a heart attack. These spasms also often result during vascular bypass or vascular reconstruction surgery. Dr. Brophy is researching these spasms, called vasospasms—both those resulting from injury, and those that result from disease.

"What's happening in the vessel that causes it to contract? That's what I want to find out," she said.

Dr. Brophy, who began her research two years ago while on faculty at Yale University, is using the vessels of animal models and of the human umbilical cord to probe the subject. She submerges strips of artery muscles in a fluid in which she can induce a spasm. She then measures the responses to various drugs and manipulations.

Some drugs already are available to prevent vasospasm. Nitroglycerin, for example, helps relax vessels and is widely used for patients at risk of heart attack. But Dr. Brophy wants to ascertain the cellular process that signals a vasospasm in the first place.

"The ultimate goal is to find more ways to prevent and alleviate vasospasm," she said.

The implications of such findings are considerable. For instance, "there's probably some component of spasm associate with most heart attacks," Dr. Brophy said.

She also suspects a link to atherosclerosis, or hardening of the arteries. "A lot of the same things that cause vessels to contract (or spasm) also cause muscles to grow. The current thinking in atherosclerosis is that smooth muscle cells may grow within the vessel. They over-respond: They see an injury and they keep growing."

She also has stumbled upon another field in which a better understanding of vasospasm may yield health benefits: gestation.

"We initially used the umbilical cord (in vasospasm research) because it is a readily available human tissue," she said. "But what surprised us is how the muscle is so different from others."

She discovered that umbilical-cord vessels spasm much more readily than others in the body. She isn't sure of the significance yet, "but this may have implications for premature delivery and fetal distress," she said, noting a possible link to the labor process.

Dr. Brophy's research is funded by grants from the American College of Surgeons Faculty Fellowship and the International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery/International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery's Lifeline Foundation Award, which is granted to one investigator a year. ■

—CHRISTINE HURLEY DERISO

Gray-Colored Glasses

Loneliness, despair, a pervasive feeling of the blues.... Few would associate these characteristics with young adulthood, the stage of life in which the future beckons seemingly without limits.

But Dr. Lou Gramling, a nurse researcher at the Medical College of Georgia, has found that many young women seem to enter adulthood not with buoyant optimism, but with apprehension, trepidation and downright sadness. Dr. Gramling wants to find out why.

While conducting research recently, Dr. Gramling was interviewing a young woman who mentioned that she considered her 20s her "mopey years." The comment alone wouldn't have struck Dr. Gramling as particularly significant if it hadn't been for the fact that so many of her study participants seemed to echo the sentiment. She had stumbled onto a pattern of sadness among women in their 20s and has been pursuing the theme ever since.

Dr. Gramling began researching women's coping skills as a nursing doctoral student at MCG in the late 1980s. She continued the research, funded by the local chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, after earning her degree. Dr. Gramling, now an assistant professor in the Department of Mental Health/Psychiatric Nursing at MCG, interviewed women between the ages of 25 and 35, assessing how they handled difficult life experiences.

"As a psychiatric nurse, I'm very interested in how people cope," Dr. Gramling said. "I wondered if coping mechanisms are related to age."

She found that in general, "age differences aren't as important as situational differences—what it is you're coping with," she said. But her curiosity was piqued by the unexpected finding that virtually all of the women considered their 20s a particularly trying time of life.

A study participant in her 20s told Dr. Gramling during the interview, "You know the story about Pollyanna having rose-colored glasses? Mine are gray."

Why do so many young women tend to view life through gray-colored glasses? Dr. Gramling, funded by an MCG Research Institute grant, is trying to answer the question. She will interview additional women age 25 to 35, asking open-ended questions to try to determine the causes of their sadness.

"You start with a few broad questions—causes of stress and coping skills, for instance—and then other questions emerge as you hear their answers." She also will chart the women's emotional health throughout their 20s, hoping to determine predictable markers that may help others anticipate, and thus better cope with, potential trouble spots.

"Recognizing these markers may help women navigate the transitions more easily," Dr. Gramling said.

The research that spurred her current study has already yielded insight. For instance, Dr. Gramling makes the distinction that the pattern of women in their 20s experiencing the blues tends to indicate sadness more than depression, which can be debilitating. "I found that these women are very functional," she said. "They get up, go to work, take care of their families."

Indeed, she wonders if the experience of dealing with sadness results in coping skills that forestall future depression. On the other hand, sadness during one's 20s may be a risk factor for depression. Dr. Gramling hopes to determine the answer.

Her research also indicates that whereas the 20s mark the stage of life normally associated with becoming an adult, many people emotionally don't complete the transition until around age 30.

Artist Lynn Lonsdale, a study participant, visually interprets her feelings of loneliness and despair.

"One thing that seems common for everybody is that something happens at age 30," Dr. Gramling said. "That age is truly more of an entry into adulthood than the 20s. By age 30, you've really developed some skills at being an adult. I find that women are more self-confident by age 30."

The 20s seem to serve as a transitional period—and many women seem to find the transition into adulthood wrenching.

"How to be an adult and still have a relationship with your family of origin is really tough," Dr. Gramling said. "Often times, Mom is on a traditional trajectory. Being raised to be a Southern belle, for instance, and then reconciling that with your reality, is no easy feat."

Dr. Gramling notes that she can personally relate, having been raised in the '50s, "the last vestige of white gloves and moms who stayed home and baked." She found that her young adulthood—which included divorce, single motherhood, remarriage and a career—bore little resemblance to her mother's. "My reality was not what I learned to expect as a child," she said. She theorizes that many young women today are similarly short on role models and ill-equipped to handle the challenges they face, often resulting in despair.

Dr. Gramling has found that women in their 20s tend to be disappointed that reality doesn't square with adolescent dreams. "Many women grieve that things haven't turned out the way they wanted them to."

Relationships tend to be critical indicators of this group's life satisfaction, and unfulfilling or non-existent relationships can create intense unhappiness. "Loneliness—not being able to connect on a number of levels—is a terrible thing," Dr. Gramling said. "If what you built in your mind was an expectation of marriage and children, you will have a hard time in your late 20s if it isn't happening. It's a tremendous piece of head work to come to terms with not achieving your expectations."

But her study participants who were alone by choice, or who *were* involved in relationships, weren't spared the 20-something blues, either. "What I've found in my research is generally a pervasive feeling of sadness that is more than situational. Even if the situation changes, the sadness lingers."

Some of her married research participants found that their relationships were less satisfying than they anticipated, and others were overwhelmed by their responsibilities. "I think even women who get everything they want have to do some reshaping of their thinking. When you have a family and job, it is really hard to pull off without losing your sense of self."

But she's encouraged by recent findings that today's generation of young women is rejecting the concept of perfection. "What women tried to do for years was everything our stay-at-home mothers did, plus our jobs. The most recent research shows that women are doing less at home—not because men are doing more, but because women are letting more things go."

The next generation of twenty-somethings will undoubtedly benefit from the current generation's trials and errors, Dr. Gramling said. And in the meantime, the current generation will learn from its own experience. "Some people get to age 30 and say, 'I'm doing it all wrong,'" Dr. Gramling said. "That's a point in life at which some people start to rebuild and do things differently."

She hopes that her research will spare them some of the hard knocks of learning these lessons on their own with little or no guidance. "I think if we can lay good foundations for people—help them learn what to expect and how to handle certain situations—we have the potential to make the whole life span easier." ■

—CHRISTINE HURLEY DERISO

Dr. Lou Gramling

SHAPING UP

Dr. F. Stuart Sanders recalls the night that the seed was planted.

He was keeping a nightlong vigil at the hospital bedside of a patient recovering from a heart attack. All-nighters are nothing new to Dr. Sanders, an internist in Demorest, Ga., and 1982 graduate of the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine. If his patients are in trouble, all bets are off for whatever other plans—a good night's sleep, for instance—he might have had. On this particular night, he'd have had trouble sleeping anyway. His mind was whirring, his adrenaline flowing.

He had an idea: He wanted to break the pattern of too many cardiac patients—recovering from a heart attack only to resume the lifestyle habits that had doomed their hearts in the first place.

"I got tired of seeing patients go off for a cardiac bypass, then going right back to the same bad habits that got them in trouble," Dr. Sanders said.

He wanted the medical community not only to patch their ailing hearts, but to introduce them to a new, healthy way of living. It wasn't enough just to hand them a pamphlet or counsel against smoking at their next appointment; Dr. Sanders had a more hands-on approach in mind.

The longer the seed germinated that night, the more excited he got. He talked about his idea with the nurse who was sharing his vigil. His enthusiasm was infectious; the nurse started taking notes. By daybreak, the two of them had a formalized proposal on paper. As the bankers'-hours staff starting filing into the hospital that morning, Dr. Sanders buoyantly sailed down the corridor. He laid the proposal on the desk of the administrator, who eventually stamped his approval.

That was in 1986. Today, the concept's mouthful of a name—the Lifestyle Improvement Through Fitness and Education program—belies its simple message and decidedly human touch. The project consists of wellness classes and seminars that cover a wide array of topics, including relaxation techniques, childbirth and smoking cessation. Another aspect of the program is its Habersham Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program, which includes three phases: a rehabilitation phase, in which hospitalized cardiac patients are counseled about healthy living; an outpatient phase in which those same patients, once out of the hospital, meet three times a week for monitored exercise; and a maintenance program, which includes twice-weekly volleyball games.

Of course, the patients' participation is voluntary. But the program seems to sell itself. "When the rehab program started, we had three patients," Dr. Sanders said. "Now we have 110."

Perhaps its most noteworthy selling point is the fact that Dr. Sanders and his colleagues—including his partner, Dr. J. Terry Greene, a 1988 MCG graduate—passionately practice what they preach. For instance, they don't just organize the volleyball games; they don sweats and sneakers and spike their

share of balls.

"The games really attest to the volunteer spirit of our doctors (at Habersham County Medical Center)," Dr. Sanders said, citing widespread and enthusiastic support throughout the medical community. "And it breaks down the barriers between doctor and patient to play ball together. My patients call me by my first name; I consider them friends. Half the fun of being a doctor is getting to know your patients."

Not all of his patients are up to volleyball, but most end up surprising themselves by their capabilities once they become involved in the rehab program.

"Most people are kind of surprised at first that they have any control over their health," said Dr. Greene, Dr. Sanders' partner. "A lot of them didn't realize they were able to do what they can do."

Dr. Sanders chuckles at the recollection of an elderly patient who called him recently to apologize for missing an appointment for a checkup. "Sorry," she said. "I had to go to rehab."

"Now, that I'll overlook," Dr. Sanders told her.

Linda Pennington, a 53-year-old Demorest resident, was never much of an exerciser before she was felled by a heart attack in July. But she was receptive to any advice Dr. Sanders gave her. "He's wonderful. He's a Christian doctor, and his patients are everything to him. He rode in the ambulance with me to Emory (University Hospital in Atlanta, a referral site for certain procedures unavailable locally) when I had my heart attack, then he stayed with me for hours until he was sure I was OK. Then he was at work the first thing the next morning."

So when Dr. Sanders recommended the rehab program, Ms. Pennington readily agreed. "He said he wanted to start me out slow," she said. She shows up for phase-two classes three days a week, riding a stationary bicycle and walking a treadmill while a nurse monitors her heart and blood pressure.

Now, for the first time in her life, Ms. Pennington is an ardent fitness buff. "I have to admit, even the first time I went, I felt better when I left than I did when I got there," she said. "And after I exercise, I have more energy all through the evening."

She's also curbed other bad habits, including a high-cholesterol diet which Dr. Sanders says is rampant in this picturesque mountain community. "I think the ones I get into rehab usually quit smoking and follow their diet," Dr. Sanders said. "They have peer support, and they learn the reasons and principles behind what they're doing. The support from other patients is tremendous. Once they get into it, they stick with it."

He and his colleagues work hard to make rehab fun. For instance, their volleyball team won first place last year at the Heart of Gold Games in Atlanta, an Olympics-style competition for cardiac rehab patients statewide. The group also meets for cookouts and other social gatherings.

That community spirit has kept the rehab program afloat in more ways than one. The rehab program was developed with virtually no budget. Dr. Sanders volunteers his time as director; equipment has been donated; and the hospital and public facilities are used. (Dr. Sanders also recently received a $7,500 grant from the Heart Patient of the Year Program, in which cardiologists nationwide annually honor a physician for innovative cardiovascular disease-prevention practice.)

Dr. Sanders delivers lectures nationwide about his work. "Basically, I give them common sense. My big push is, 'If we can do it, you can do it.' We did it with no money and it's been a tremendous benefit to our patients."

The community's commitment to good health was further demonstrated when its residents rallied to build a new hospital two years ago. The 53-bed Habersham County Medical Center is thriving at a time when rural hospitals are folding at a record clip.

The projects—the rehab program, the new hospital—have cemented Dr. Sanders' bond with his adopted hometown. After his residency, Dr. Sanders' father (Dr. Floyd Roscoe Sanders, '44, who recently retired after 43 years) invited him to join his Atlanta-area practice, but his son declined.

"I always wanted to be a doctor where they needed somebody," he said. "Atlanta has plenty of doctors. My dad said, 'Son, you can always come home.' I said, 'I want to go to the mountains.'" His father heartily endorsed his choice.

He's had his work cut out for him; he and his partner could easily use more help. But there's very little he would change. "I feel blessed to be doing what I'm doing. I enjoy getting up every day and going to work. I have patients who are indigent and I have patients who are corporate executives. I treat teens and I treat 93-year-olds."

He believes his and his wife's three children also benefit from such diversity—not to mention the fresh mountain air. "I think a lot about how different their childhoods are than mine was," he said softly. "The low crime rate, the way they run around without worrying about traffic...."

And they've learned, as he has, that it's possible to think of one's neighbors as family. And nothing excites Dr. Sanders more than helping his "family" shape up. "There's nothing more satisfying than seeing a heart-attack patient strutting down the hall wearing a rehab shirt," he said. "Most of the are in better shape now than they ever were." ■

—CHRISTINE HURLEY DERISO

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Getting the Picture

Imaging has a new dimension.

A third dimension has been added to the two-dimensional scans produced by computerized tomography and magnetic resonance imaging.

This real-life perspective means that even before surgery, doctors can see every aspect of a tumor invading the brain and know the tumor's size and its relationship to key areas of the brain.

They can look at the brain for subtle size differences in the right and left hippocampus, an indicator of where seizures may originate.

They can remove the top bone of the arm, the humerus, from a three-dimensional image and look directly at a shoulder injury.

Doctors can even peruse the body's blood vessels from head to toe, checking for a protruding sac called an aneurysm or an artery occluded by plaque. Color can be added to these images to further define the limits of a tumor or to differentiate normal structures, such as ligaments in the knee that overlap.

"(If) they want to look at a small section of a blood vessel that may have an aneurysm or an occlusion, three-dimensional imaging allows them to remove blood vessels (from the image) which obscure the view of the defective vessel," said Dr. Jerry Allison, medical physicist at the Medical College of Georgia. "We can isolate any portion of an image, and rotate it and look at it from any view."

CT scans are taken in the axial plane, perpendicular to the trunk of the body. These images are excellent for viewing bones. MRI studies provide images of the axial plane; the coronal plane (from front to back through the body, such as from the tip of the nose to the back of the head); and the sagittal plane (from left to right, from ear to ear.) MRI provides quality images of soft tissue.

A patient having a CT or MRI might have 100 images taken from different views, Dr. Allison said. Traditionally, the radiologist would sift through the 100 slices, analyzing the resulting two-dimensional views, and in his mind constructing what the brain or joint or heart looks like before making recommendations to the surgeon.

"Instead of having to reconstruct the abnormality in your 3-D work station which is your brain, you can see it right here," said Dr. Victor Toro, MCG neuroradiologist, of the 3-D work station for CT and MRI. "You can see the anatomy or the pathology in all their planes, thereby providing information on how deep the lesion is and its relationship to other structures."

"We do ankles to brains," said Dr. Allison. "It's a way to review a lot of data quickly."

"The point is that you can scan in one plane in one-third the time and create those other two planes off line, away from the scanner," said Chris Wright, research assistant in MRI at MCG. "We manipulate images in different ways to get more from less."

Like building blocks, two-dimensional slices are stacked together to create a three-dimensional image.

"We acquire very thin slices, then we can create any other view that you might want to see," Mr. Wright said. "The other thing this allows you to do is create a true, three-dimensional image and rotate it around and be able to look at it, which you cannot do with a two-dimensional image."

The bottom line is that a surgeon can preview what he'll see in surgery.

"Surgical planning is going to be the primary use of this machine," Mr. Wright said.

Dr. Toro uses the technology to add a new dimension to the evaluation of seizure patients at MCG. The idea of MCG's Epilepsy Surgery Program is to identify the seizure focus in the brain and determine if it can be removed safely. After sophisticated, invasive studies of the brain's electrical activity are complete, Dr. Toro is called in to also look at three-dimensional images of the brain.

He looks at the right and left hippocampus, which are involved in memory and are often a seizure focus. This new technology allows him to see even subtle size differences that would implicate either side, differences undetectable by other means. Dr. Toro can see the grooves and elevations of the outer brain and check them for abnormalities.

This capability has prompted research at MCG to determine if certain abnormalities in the shape of these gyri—the elevations on the brain's surface—are associated with certain diseases.

"Maybe we can try to help to limit surgery" by further isolating the seizure focus before seizure surgery, Dr. Toro said. ■

—TONI BAKER

Chris Wright

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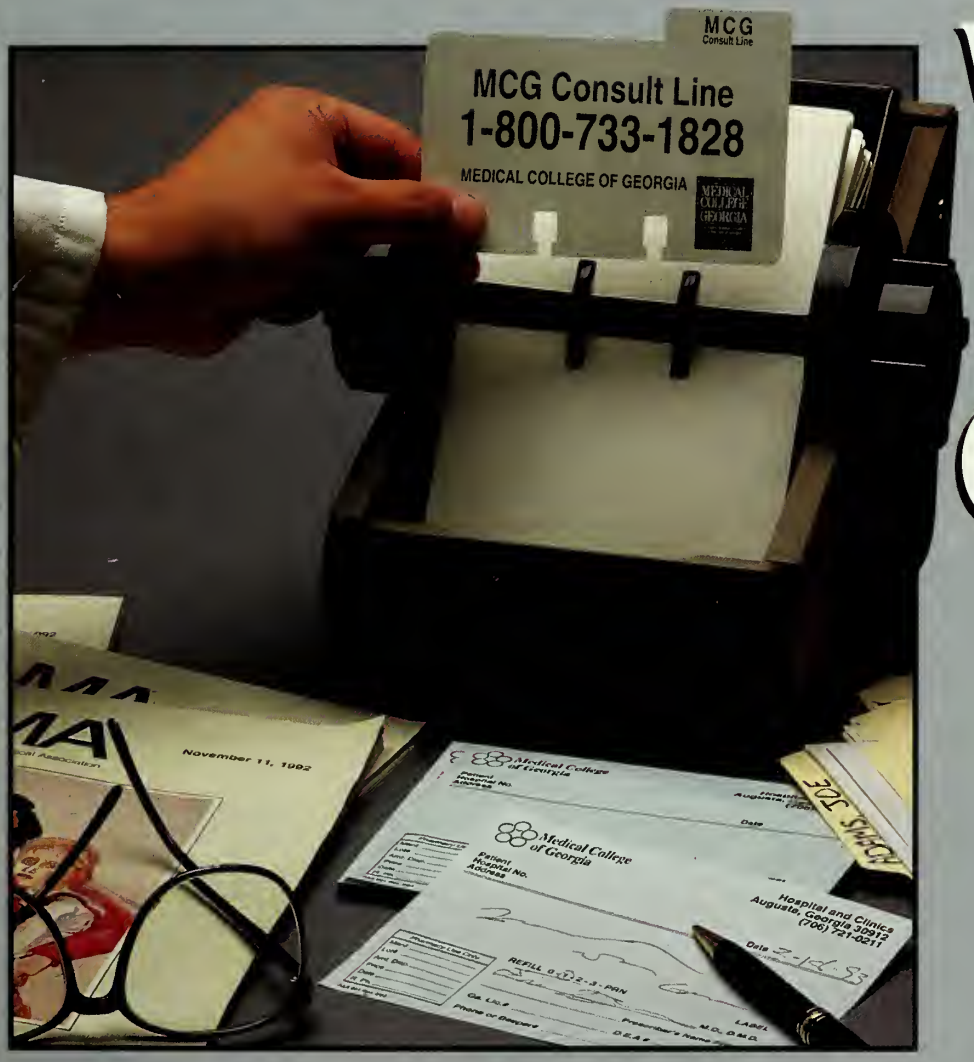

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Year in Review

THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
The Health Sciences University of the State of Georgia
HOSPITAL & CLINICS

Annual Report

We've moved from the Family Practice Center on St. Sebastian Way. We've moved from the Outpatient Clinic Building on Laney-Walker Boulevard. We've moved from the Dermatology Building on Pope Avenue. We've moved from several locations throughout the hospital.

We've all moved into the new Ambulatory Care Center and Specialized Care Center of the Medical College of Georgia. Our objective: To provide quality primary, secondary and tertiary care in one location for patients of Georgia and the region. We've moved to enable outpatients to see our physicians and obtain laboratory work, X-rays and prescriptions all in one building. We've moved to provide efficient, state-of-the-art care for critically ill and injured patients in new surgical, medical and shock-trauma intensive-care units.

Detailed planning was an integral factor in the December opening of the Ambulatory Care Center and of the Specialized Care Center in March.

The move into the new 385,000-square-foot complex was a primary focus of activity during fiscal 1993. This focus did not, however, interrupt or detract from the continued provision of quality health care. While planners were planning, builders building and movers moving, the care given by the hospital and clinics continued to excel.

A Chest Pain Center, the first of its kind in the Augusta area, was established in emergency services to respond immediately and provide priority care for chest discomfort around the clock. A Sports Medicine Program, which kicked off in mid-August, serves recreational athletes as well as those from high school, collegiate and semi-professional teams.

Transplant services were expanded to include transplantation of the kidney and pancreas for diabetics whose kidneys have failed. The first to benefit from the program was 36-year-old David Guyton. For almost a year, Mr. Guyton spent three and a half hours a day, three days a week connected to a dialysis machine which took over the blood-cleansing task for his failed kidneys. For 10 years, he had given himself daily injections to provide the insulin his pancreas could not produce. To Mr. Guyton, the new surgery, performed in April 1993, meant the return to camping with his family and to a "normal life."

The hospital and clinics received provisional designation as a pediatric trauma center, recognizing the availability of 24-hour coverage of surgical subspecialties for children. A new pediatric cardiology satellite clinic was established, for a total of nine practice sites in Georgia where patients can be seen by MCG pediatric cardiologists.

Bids were developed for $3.8 million in digital imaging equipment for new pediatric and adult heart catheterization laboratories. A minor-procedure room was opened in the ambulatory surgery unit to accommodate the growing number of outpatient surgical cases.

ACC/SCC

Mirroring a national phenomenon, MCG Hospital and Clinics continued to experience a growth in outpatient activity and a decrease in inpatient admissions. Outpatient activity increased 4.6 percent, with an 18 percent increase over the past three years. Outpatient surgical cases increased by 17.9 percent during the year.

The new ACC created growing room for many of MCG's specialty clinics and generated growth in other support service activities. The number of speech treatment rooms was increased for the audiology and speech pathology department. New multidisciplinary programs developed include the Milestones program, operated with the occupational and physical therapy departments; and the Dysphasia Team, consisting of a speech pathologist, occupational therapist and dietitian. With Indigent Care Trust Fund support, hearing aids were provided for indigent patients.

A pediatric pulmonary function laboratory was established to provide a wide range of services including pneumography studies to measure sleep interruptions and determine a child's risk for sudden infant death syndrome. A new program provided for inpatients involves the use of percussive vests to help clear the lungs of pediatric cystic fibrosis patients.

Children's Medical Center

The word from the University System of Georgia Board of Regents this year was welcomed news: Funding—$41 million—was approved for a new Children's Medical Center at MCG to serve the children of Georgia. Functional space-planning, already under way when the news came, will soon be complete. Work on the architectural design should begin in the fall. Family-centered care (see apage 24) will be the philosophy upon which every aspect of care for CMC patients will be based.

While eyes are on the future CMC, programs and services in the existing CMC in the hospital are continuing to move forward. An in-house school program was established this year to help young patients keep up with their class work while hospitalized for extended periods. Renovations are under way for a new child psychiatry unit with a day-hospitalization component.

Support Services

Responsibilities of the GeorgiaCare/Contracted Care Office continue to expand to ensure the hospital's continued stable financial health. Contracts for mammography testing, physician referrals and general health-care needs have been established. The Physician Consultation and Referral Service, in its third year, continues to help referring physicians by bringing specialized

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Medicine Intensive Care Unit in the Specialized Care Center

AlumNews

Dr. Wray Named V.P. For Clinical Activities

Toni Baker

Dr. Charles H. Wray, vice chairman of the Medical College of Georgia Department of Surgery and interim dean of the MCG School of Medicine, has been appointed vice president for clinical activities at MCG.

In his new position, Dr. Wray will be chief adviser for the patient-care delivery system of MCG, including allocating direct patient-care resources, said Dr. Francis J. Tedesco, MCG president.

Dr. Wray will coordinate delivery of patient care and physician training and will develop strategies and action plans that meet the institution's goals and objectives to improve patient care. He also will serve as a liaison with referring physicians and patient communities.

"With the current and future focus on managed and contractual care, I believe he will be one of the key players in assuring the Medical College of Georgia's success in meeting the challenges of the ever-changing health-care environment," Dr. Tedesco said.

Dr. Wray, a 1959 graduate of the MCG School of Medicine, was named interim dean of the medical school in November 1992. Interviews are being conducted following a national search to identify a dean. ■

4 Named to Foundation Board

Four Georgians have been elected board members of the Medical College of Georgia Foundation Inc.

The foundation, a non-profit corporation, receives and holds MCG donations and uses the assets to maintain and improve the school's resources. The foundation's 35-member board of directors governs the corporation.

Newly elected members are D. Hugh Connolly, president of Sherman and Hemstreet Inc. in Augusta; J. Harold Harrison, M.D., a 1948 MCG graduate and a physician in Atlanta; Lansing B. Lee Jr., an Augusta attorney; and Lloyd Schnuck, M.D., a 1968 MCG graduate and a physician in Savannah, Ga. ■

1993 MCG School of Medicine graduates Jeff Carney (from left), Kelli Carter Mooney and Michael Carter celebrate during MCG's 1993 commencement exercises June 5.

14 Retiring Faculty Members Honored

Christine Hurley Deriso

The Medical College of Georgia's fourteen retiring faculty members were honored during the school's May 20 faculty assembly.

Retiring from the School of Allied Health Sciences is Ruth Wrightstone, assistant research scientist in medical technology. Ms. Wrightstone earned a master's degree in biochemistry from MCG and joined the faculty full time in 1970. She is the director of the MCG Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center's International Hemoglobin Information Center and is secretary of *Hemoglobin*, the international journal for hemoglobin research.

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Allied Health Sciences

Physical Therapy Alumnus Juggles Patient Care, Education

Ingrid Heggoy

When Jeff Dowling entered the physical therapy program at the Medical College of Georgia in 1987, he hadn't thought about staying here long.

Actually, he left–for a year, right after graduation, to work as a physical therapist in Valdosta, Ga. But thanks to a new faculty-development program, a teaching position in the physical therapy department became available, and he moved back to MCG.

"The faculty development program is a new joint hospital/school project, and each pays half of my salary," said the new president of the School of Allied Health Sciences Alumni Association. "I worked full time in the hospital the first year I was back, the second year I was 50/50 between the hospital and the school, and this past year I was in the physical therapy department full time. And the program allowed me to earn a master's in health education from here while I was working and teaching."

The new program is designed to encourage more physical therapists to go into education, Mr. Dowling said, by allowing them to work and earn a graduate degree at the same time.

"There's a shortage of qualified physical therapy instructors, since almost all P.T. programs are bachelor's level," he explained.

The move back to Augusta also allowed his wife, Lisa, who had been working as a physical therapy assistant, to enter the occupational therapy bachelor's program at MCG. She graduated in 1992 and now works in Augusta as well.

After completing his master's degree, the physical therapy departments in both the school and the hospital offered Mr. Dowling positions. He has decided to accept the hospital's offer and become the new assistant director of physical therapy.

"I think the biggest deciding factor is that I feel I need a little more grounding in the practical, clinical aspects of the field, to help me become a better teacher," he said. "I haven't been out of school that long, and I want to have strong practical experience to go along with what I teach. I also will get the opportunity to learn a new area, administration.

"Plus, I can still maintain my interaction with the school and students. I will be teaching a course in the school next year, and I'll be working with students in the hospital."

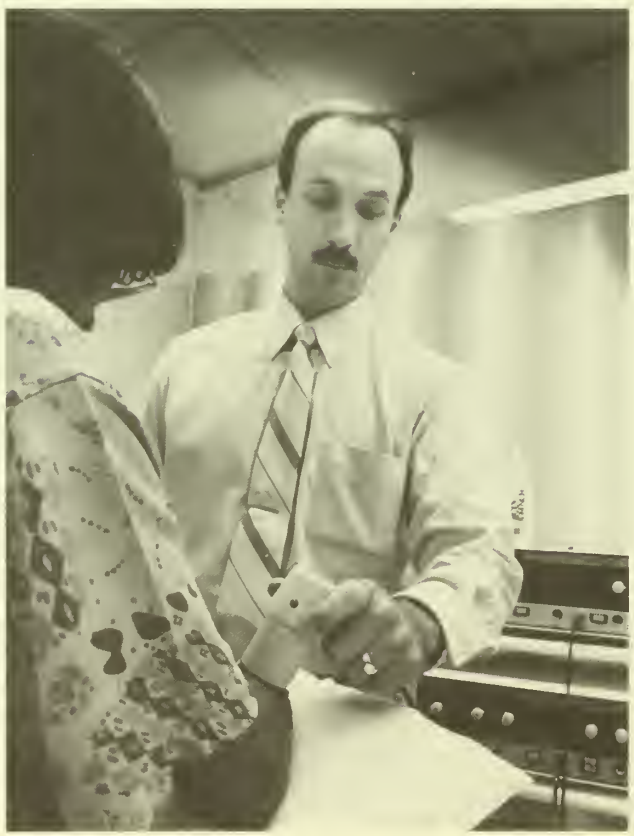
Another factor is Mr. Dowling's continuing interest in orthopedics and sports medicine. He is working with MCG's new sports medicine program and will have the opportunity to be even more active when he is at the hospital full time.

"I really want to develop my sports medicine skills more," he said. "We're getting ready to start football coverage again. I'll be working with Evans High School, working on a sports medicine team with a physician. We'll be working with players during the week, and covering the games, treating injuries."

Mr. Dowling also has been active with the school's alumni association since he moved back to Augusta, representing the physical therapy alumni. As president for the School of Allied Health Sciences in 1993-94, he is looking forward to several of the association's events, including the homecoming festivities and the fall Welcome Back TGIF for students.

One of the association's activities that he is most proud of is the Allied Health in the Schools Program with T.W. Josey High School in Augusta. Once a month, the association sponsors a display in the school library featuring an allied health profession with information for interested students. ■

Jeff Dowling



Allied Health Faculty Honored

Ingrid Heggoy

Several Medical College of Georgia School of Allied Health Sciences faculty members were honored at the school's spring assembly May 27.

Abdul Hamid Shaikh, associate professor in the Department of Medical Technology, was named Outstanding Faculty Member; and Jeanne Robinson, assistant director of physical therapy, was named Outstanding Clinical Faculty.

Barbara H. Edwards, supervisor of clinical microbiology, received the Distinguished Service award; and Sheila White, assistant professor in the Department of Associated Dental Sciences, received the Research Award.

Shelley Mishoe, associate professor and chairman of the Department of Respiratory Therapy, received the 1992 Georgia Society of Allied Health Professions Research Award. The award was presented by Julia Crowley, professor and chairman

of the Department of Medical Technology, and president of GSAHP.

Ms. Mishoe was recognized for her research of high school seniors and factors influencing their career choices, which was published in the winter 1993 edition of the *Journal of Allied Health*. She found that most students listed personal satisfaction, employment opportunities and income as the most important factors influencing their career choices. Most students had a favorable impression of allied health, but only a small percentage were aware of many of the career opportunities available in the field. ■

Students Lauded During Honors Day

Ingrid Heggoy

Medical College of Georgia School of Allied Health Sciences students and faculty were honored at the school's annual honors day ceremony in June.

Fawzi Naji, a senior medical technology student, received the Dr. Walter L. Shepeard Achievement Award. The Dr. C. Robert Baisden Student Laboratory Management Award was given to senior medical technology student Brian Williams. Mr. Williams also received the CSRA Society of Medical Laboratory Personnel Student Professional Award.

Lori Prince, a senior, received the Juanita Sirmans Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Information Management. Junior Melissa Middleton received the Greater Augusta Area Health Information Management Association Scholarship Award of $500.

Senior physician assistant student Stephen H. Shepard received the Outstanding Physician Assistant Student Award.

The Department of Dental Hygiene Chairman's Award was given to Pamela Hinkle, a senior dental hygiene student in the school's Augusta program, and Debbie Phillips, an associate-degree student in MCG's Rome, Ga., dental hygiene program.

The Best Clinician Award was given to Ashifa Dharamsi, an associate-degree student from Augusta, and Velvet Gravitt, an associate-degree student from the Rome program. Barbara Blackburn, an associate-degree student in Augusta, and Renae Bell, an associate-degree student in Rome, received the Preventive Dentistry Award.

Dental hygiene students Lara High, Ms. Hinkle and Susan Taylor were inducted into Sigma Phi Alpha, a national dental hygiene honor society.

James Greene, a senior nuclear medicine technology student, and John Ruffin, a senior diagnostic medical sonography student, received the Department of Radiologic Technologies Outstanding Student Awards. Rae Dalton, a senior radiography student, and Sarah McKee, a senior nuclear medicine technology student, received the Mallinckrodt Award, given to students who show outstanding clinical performance. Charles Murray, a senior nuclear medicine technology student, received the 400 Club Award for maintaining a perfect grade point average.

Senior Joel Zwemer received the Department of Respiratory Therapy Chairman's Award. Mr. Zwemer and seniors Annette Whitley, Christopher Pitts and Bradley Holt were inducted into Lambda Beta, a respiratory therapy honor society.

Elissa Armstrong, a junior physician assistant student, received the MCG Faculty Wives Scholarship Award of $500. Teresa Jones, junior physical therapy student, received the Raymond C. Bard Scholarship Award of $500.

Inductees into Alpha Eta Society, a national allied health honor society, include occupational therapy students Sherry Alexander, Joan Gargiula, Rebecca Johnston, Stacy Starr; occupational therapy assistant student Patricia Cauthern; physical therapy students Melissa Borum, Malia Cooper, Lori Bolgla, Valerie Harris, Lisa Nicoski and Steven Taylor.

Also, physician assistant students Beretta Craft, Linda Kolmar and Lloyd Taylor; medical technology students Susan King, Karen Ponder and Billy Joe Williams; dental hygiene students Carla Barrett, Barbara Lynn Blackburn and Teresa Compton; radiologic technologies students Jeannine Bland, Lisa Erwin and Patricia Starnes; and respiratory therapy students Bradley Holt and Mr. Zwemer.

Alpha Eta faculty initiates were Diane Turnbull, instructor of medical technology, Shelia White, assistant professor of associated dental sciences, Edward Huechtker, assistant professor of physician assistant and Elizabeth Layman, instructor of health information management. ■

Medical Technologists Honored

Ingrid Heggoy

Several Medical College of Georgia School of Allied Health Sciences faculty members were honored at the recent Georgia Society for Medical Technology (GSMT) annual convention in Atlanta.

Dr. Geraldine Rinker, professor of medical technology and administrative technologist in the clinical pathology labs, received the state and local Medical Technologist of the Year Award.

Abdul Hamid Shaikh, associate professor and director of the medical technology graduate program, received the Gloria F. Gilbert Achievement Award for his work with GSMT continuing education programs and for his work as a District I director for GSMT.

Dr. Julia Crowley, professor and chairman, Regina Mobley, assistant professor, and Sharon Kutt, assistant professor, received the Omicron Sigma Award honoring their volunteer efforts to help both GSMT and the profession of medical technology develop in the state. ■

Class Notes

Regina Gardner (nuclear medicine) is the chief nuclear medicine technologist at St. Joseph Hospital in Augusta.

Terry L. Trundle (A.S., '78) is a clinical specialist in knee rehab at Sports South Sports Medicine in Marietta, Ga. He is president of Clinical Specialist Inc., an education company that sponsors cadaver dissection. He and wife Jamie had a son, Taylor, Feb. 12, 1993.

Celeste A. Novallo (R.T., '91) earned a master's degree in business administration with a marketing concentration from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in December 1992. She was awarded the graduate assistantship during the program.

School of Allied Health Sciences Alumni Association Officers, 1993-94

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Dentistry

Researcher Probes Dental Materials' Link to Inflammation

Glenn Hudson

A researcher at the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry is probing a possible relationship between the substances that adhere to materials used to repair teeth and the inflammation associated with gum disease.

Dr. Kent Knoernschild, assistant director of MCG's prosthodontics residency program, is developing a way to analyze whether the materials used to create crowns and bridges allow endotoxins, a component of the cell wall of bacteria, to adhere to their surfaces. His research is funded by a $20,000 grant by the American Fund for Dental Health Dental Faculty Development Fellowship.

When endotoxins are released by bacteria in the mouth, they trigger the body's immune response, which leads to inflammation of the gums, or gingivitis, according to Dr. Knoernschild. "This endotoxin adherence to dental materials could provide a localized source for ongoing inflammation of the gums," he said.

"We know there is a biocompatibility of dental materials and the soft tissue in the mouth," said Dr. Knoernschild. "What has never been addressed before is whether there is something that can adhere to these materials that can increase or enhance inflammation. We're looking at this from a standpoint of the potential for endotoxin to adhere to different materials. The next step would be to determine the implications of that adherence."

The research could help dentists decide which materials they select for patient care. It could also affect dental material manufacturing. "We're setting up a model that the American Dental Association or even manufacturers could use to assess yet another facet of the biocompatibility of dental materials," he said.

"We know that placing the crown margin, the line where the tooth and the dental material meets, below the gumline has been associated with gingival inflammation and gingival recession. We also know that gingival recession has been associated with higher levels of endotoxin below the gumline," he said. "If endotoxins have a high affinity for a dental material, the locally higher concentration of endotoxin could promote inflammation and recession to some extent."

The research could have an enormous impact on the way dental materials are evaluated, he said. "We will be able to determine ways in which we can increase the performance of these materials by minimizing the adherence of endotoxins," he said.

"As one of its goals for the '90s, the National Institute of Dental Research has suggested that research should focus on ways bacterial products can generate or enhance inflammation," he said. "The more endotoxin that adheres to the material, the greater the potential for endotoxin to promote an inflammatory response. It appears that the type of material, the type of endotoxin and the type of finish on the material all play a role in endotoxin affinity." ■

Dr. Adair Named Committee Chairman

Dr. Steve Adair, chairman of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the Medical College of Georgia, has been named chairman of the Education Committee of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

The academy is the national organization representing the specialty of dentistry for children. Its members include more than 3,300 pediatric dentists in academics, research and private practice.

The education committee monitors issues related to pediatric dental education and develops programs and guidelines for continuing education for pediatric dentists. Dr. Adair, who will chair the committee for three years, has been a member of the committee since 1989. ■

Dental Seniors Honor Faculty

Glenn Hudson

Six faculty members of the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry have been honored by the class of 1993.

Dr. Steven Adair, chairman of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, won the Clinical Department Award, and Dr. Charles Morris, professor of oral rehabilitation, won the Clinical Teaching Award.

Dr. Baldev Singh, professor of oral pathology, and Dr. James Hall, assistant professor of oral pathology, were awarded certificates of appreciation for outstanding contributions to the class of 1993.

Dr. Jack Sherrer, professor emeritus of restorative dentistry, was awarded the Judson C. Hickey Outstanding Teacher Award and the $100 American College of Dentists Faculty Professionalism Award.

Annette Morris of the Department of Periodontics was named best clinical assistant. ■

19 Dental Students Honored

Nineteen Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry students were honored at the school's Class of 1993 Recognition Night June 2.

Jimmy Arnold of Augusta won the American Association of Endodontists Award and the Pierre Fauchard Academy Award.

Jessica Barber of Augusta won the Student National Dental Association President Award.

Jeff Capes of Covington, Ga., won the Oral Implantology ICOI Award.

Tim Fagan of Dublin, Ga., won the Senior Oral Medicine Award.

Dana Fender of Douglas, Ga., won the Alpha Omega Scholarship Award, the American Academy of Oral Pathology Award, the Dentsply International Merit Award, the Anatomic Sciences Award and the Pharmacology Award.

Darlene Fields of Swainsboro, Ga., won the Pharmacology Award.

Tom Godfrey of Augusta won the American Student Dental Association Award and the Teledyne Hanau Prosthodontic Award.

Angie Gribble of Atlanta won the $500 Goldstein Esthetic Dentistry Award.

George Hall of Stone

Mountain, Ga., won the Academy of General Dentistry Award, the Academy of Operative Dentistry Award and the Lippincott Award.

Janet Hiers of Griffin, Ga., won the American Academy of Periodontology Award.

Michael Kelly of Augusta won the Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics Award.

Diane Manning of Warner Robins, Ga., won the Quintessence International Award and the Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis Award.

Barbara Marshall of Smyrna, Ga., won the American Society of Dentistry for Children Award and the Oral Implantology Kyocera Academic Award.

James E. Paschal of Augusta won the $500 AFTCO Associates Practice Administration Award, the American College of Prosthodontists Award and the American Equilibration Society Award.

Frank Scarbrough of Savannah won the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award, the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award and the Pharmacology Award.

Susan Smith of Macon, Ga., won the American Academy of Dental Practice Administration Award, the American Academy of Oral Medicine Award and the International College of Dentists Award.

Scott Summers of Augusta won the Oral Implantology Steri-Oss Research Award.

Whitney Troope of Atlanta won the Pharmacology Award.

Mike Wilson of Dutton, Ala., won the Class President Award and the American Academy of Orthodontists Award. ■

Dental School Opens Emergency Clinic

Glenn Hudson

The Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry has opened an emergency-services clinic to provide care for those who need immediate dental treatment. The clinic will also provide a source for training students to handle dental emergencies.

The clinic, located on the first floor of the MCG School of Dentistry on the corner of 15th Street and Laney-Walker Boulevard, will be open weekdays from 1-5 p.m. The clinic will be available for walk-in patients, but calling in advance (ext. 1-2371) is highly recommended.

Emergency services include tooth removal and restorative care for a broken tooth or a severe cavity with a focus on relieving symptoms until further care can be provided, said Dr. Wayne Herman, chief of the clinic. "We will provide those kinds of services that would be available in a general dental practice.

"The clinic is not designed to take patients away from the dentists in the community," said Dr. Herman. "The reason that people come to this kind of a situation is that they don't have a regular dentist. These people don't see a dentist on a regular basis so they don't have someone they can call in an emergency."

Each emergency visit will include involving the patient in future dental care. "We urge patients to get comprehensive dental care through a private dentist or through the dental school program," he said. "Most all of the patients that come in with a dental emergency are going to need follow-up care.

"The primary objective here is student education, to teach the student how to deal with a dental emergency. We are also providing a service to the school and to the community," Dr. Herman said. ■

Visitor Notes Differences

Glenn Hudson

In Germany, dental students and their professors don't get very close. Chance are good your professor doesn't even know your name.

"You go to class and you leave and you would never hope to see your professor on the street," said Ina Schelper, a 23 year-old German dental student visiting the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry. "I was really impressed with the good relationship here between the students and the professors. Here, the professors know your name and have social functions with you. In Germany, this would never happen."

Miss Schelper is a senior dental student at the University of Goettingen, located in the small town of Goettingen, Germany between Hamburg and Frankfurt. She visited MCG to observe how dentists are taught in the United States. "I decided I would like to observe dental students over here to see if there are any differences in how dentistry is taught," she said. "What impressed me most is how much the students can treat the patients."

In Germany, professors bar dental students from doing certain types of dental procedures. "In Germany, we don't do surgery or periodontal work. Students do so much here," said Miss Schelper. ■

Class Notes

Dr. Andrew Allgood ('73) and ***Dr. Isaac S. Hadley*** ('74) were inducted as fellows into the American College of Dentists during the American Dental Association meeting last fall.

Dr. Lee A. Bell ('73), a periodontist in Brunswick, Ga., was elected president of the Georgia Society of Periodontics at its annual meeting in May.

Dr. Clark M. Carroll ('74) is co-chairman of the Georgia Dental Association membership committee.

Dr. Van B. Haywood ('74) joined MCG's oral rehabilitation faculty Aug. 1, 1993. He and wife Angie (Berry) have three children.

Dr. Arun Nayyar ('74) has been appointed to a one-year term on the Prosthodontics Test Construction Committee of the American Dental Association.

Dr. Benjamin Patrick ('75) is the immediate past president of the Georgia Academy of General Dentistry.

Dr. Edward H. (Chip) Mohme ('81) chairs the Manpower Committee of the Georgia Dental Association.

Dr. Karyn Stockwell ('82) is chairman of the Georgia Dental Association Council on Dental Health/Children's Dental Health.

Dr. James L. Cassidy Jr. ('83) is chairman of the Georgia Dental Association Political Action Committee.

Dr. Michael L. Golsen ('86) is president of the Georgia Academy of General Dentistry.

Dr. Jennifer Diversi-Violette ('87) is secretary and program chairman of the Georgia Dental Education Foundation.

School of Dentistry Alumni Association Officers, 1993-94

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Dr. T. Barrett Trotter
Augusta, Ga.
(706) 860-2442

Vice President
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(706) 860-7937

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Graduate Studies

Dr. Brann Discusses Research at International Conference

Dr. Darrell W. Brann, assistant professor in the Department of Physiology and Endocrinology and an alumnus of the Medical College of Georgia School of Graduate Studies, participated in a conference regarding assisted reproductive technology July 9-11 in Alicante, Spain.

The Assisted Reproductive Technology/Andrology International Conference was sponsored by the journals *Assisted Reproductive Technology/Andrology* and *Molecular Andrology*. Topics included fertility regulation, reproductive endocrinology and reproductive technology. Dr. Brann presented a plenary lecture titled "Role of excitatory amino acids in reproduction" and served as co-chairman of the session on fertility regulation. ■

Alumni Association President Cites Need for Funds

By Glenn Hudson

For Dr. Tony Creazzo, associate professor in the department of cellular biology at the Medical College of Georgia, the last year as president of the MCG School of Graduate Studies Alumni Association has been an ongoing effort to provide more funds for a variety of activities.

Among the projects funded by the group is the Sam Singal Travel Fund, named in honor of a former dean of the School of Graduate Studies. "The program is designed to help graduate students travel to national meetings," said Dr. Creazzo, now interim president of the alumni association. "It's important for graduate students to meet other scientists and other professionals in their field."

In addition to fund-raising, Dr. Creazzo has worked to reach lost alumni through the use of phonathons. "We have tried to make an extra effort to find alumni with whom we have lost contact to find out where they are and how they are doing," he said.

The association also oversees homecoming activities for the school, including selecting an annual distinguished alumnus. "They are chosen through nominations from graduate faculty and alumni. The board of directors meets and we pick a distinguished alumnus to give the lecture and participate in various other homecoming activities," Dr. Creazzo said.

The most popular event on the alumni association calendar occurs each fall. "We have a fall fish fry for the incoming graduate students which has been very successful. The fish fry has become a tradition with us," he said.

The attention of the alumni association is now focused on the search for a new president. The president-elect declined the position and a new president and president-elect search is under way. "We have a nomination committee that is active in providing nominations for new officers as well as new members of the board of directors," Dr. Creazzo said. "The nominations will soon be ready and presented to the graduate alumni for voting." ■

Dr. Tony Creazzo

Dr. Chew Named to Study Section

Dr. Catherine S. Chew, professor of medicine at the Medical College of Georgia, has been appointed to a four-year term on the General Medicine A-2 Study Section of the Division of Research Grants of the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Chew is one of 17 members of the section which reviews grant applications in the area of general medicine made to the NIH from across the country.

After review, study sections make recommendations on grant applications to the appropriate NIH advisory council or board. Section members also survey the status of research in their fields of science. ■

Alumnus Spearheaded Tuberculosis Research

Ingrid Heggoy

When Dr. Rufus Payne graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in 1933, he didn't realize that he would be starting a family tradition. He also couldn't have yet known that his distinguished career would bring him back to his alma mater.

His son, Dr. Peter Payne, is a class of 1964 School of Medicine alumnus and an obstetrician/gynecologist, and his granddaughter, Margaret Payne, entered the freshman medical school class this fall.

After earning his medical degree, Dr. Payne also began a career and a fight to control tuberculosis that spanned nearly 60 years, until his retirement last summer. After graduating from MCG and completing an internship at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn., he joined the Georgia Department of Public Health. After a year, he took a leave of absence to earn a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins, then returned to the public health service.

Just before World War II, he was assigned to the public health department in Atlanta, and became interested in a topic that shaped much of his career: tuberculosis.

"In 1941, I helped the health service complete some research on T.B.—we started the first mass chest X-rays in the state to look for it. We found a lot of tuberculosis in Fulton County," he said.

In 1945, he was offered the job of superintendent and medical director of the state tuberculosis hospital in Alto, Ga. He agreed to accept the position if he also could continue to treat patients. The closing of Battey Naval Hospital in Rome, Ga., at the end of the war offered the state hospital better facilities and more space, so Dr. Payne, his staff and patients moved to Battey, which soon became the largest state tuberculosis facility in the country.

"The medical school (at MCG) was working closely with me by that time," Dr. Payne said. "We had established residencies at Battey—Dr. Bob Ellison was our first thoracic surgery resident. Medical specialists from all the areas would come at least once a month to see patients."

But MCG was having problems of its own. The American Medical Association had recommended closing the school in 1933, because it didn't have enough patients to support the medical students. The school's continued existence was unsure for several years. Finally, in 1951, the state legislature appropriated money to allow the Georgia Division of Public Health to build a teaching hospital in Augusta.

"The director of the state health department asked me to come here (to Augusta) and supervise the construction of the hospital (Talmadge, now called MCG Hospital and Clinics)," Dr. Payne said. "Originally, the board of health was supposed to run it, but as we got along in the project we could see that wasn't going to be a good solution. So we finally got the Board of Regents to accept the hospital for the college."

Dr. Payne was in charge of the hospital's construction, and after its completion, became its first superintendent. Once again, he agreed to take the position only if he could also continue treating patients. "I saw patients once a week at the health department here until I finally retired last summer," he said.

Dr. Rufus Payne

He served as superintendent of the hospital until 1966, when he took the position of director of hospital research and development, a position he held until his retirement from MCG in 1971. He was one of the country's pioneers in the use of computers in medicine and conducted research at MCG on how hospital services were being utilized through a computer analysis.

"It was exciting work, and it was the kind of information that it just wasn't practical to try to gather without a computer," he said. "But I didn't imagine all the things that computers are doing in the field today; our computers just weren't capable of letting us think of some things that are commonplace now."

Even after retiring from MCG, Dr. Payne continued his lifelong passion for treating patients, and he was instrumental in several developments at the board of health. He helped create the first tuberculosis prevention program in the state. A cooperative effort of the health departments in Atlanta, Augusta, Aiken and Charleston showed that preventive tuberculosis medication, given to those who had come in contact with the disease but not yet contracted it protected them from infection.

He also helped start a program in 1977 that is still in effect: one that takes tuberculosis medication into the homes of those with the disease.

"One of the most difficult things about controlling T.B. is patient non-compliance," he said. "So we started a program, going into the homes and taking them the drugs, so we knew they were getting the treatment." The program is partially responsible for the dramatic drop in tuberculosis cases in Richmond County, which have dropped from more than 100 cases a year in 1952 to approximately eight cases in 1992, according to Dr. Payne. ■

Cardiologists Take Services on the Road

Toni Baker

Dr. David L. Rutlen, chief of the Medical College of Georgia Section of Cardiology, has an offer for hospitals within 100 miles of Georgia's health sciences university.

If they need cardiologists, he'll bring the cardiologists to them.

"Part of the mission of the medical school should be to support the doctors and help them do a better job in their communities, as much as possible," Dr. Rutlen said. "I think this allows us to do that."

The cardiology section has established regular patient examination days in Swainsboro and Sandersville, Ga. Drs. Rutlen, Christopher Pallas and John Hennecken see patients every other Tuesday in Swainsboro and Drs. Rutlen and Hennecken travel to Sandersville every Thursday. They began the programs in September and March, respectively.

"Dr. Rutlen has made his section accessible," said Dr. Mark Harvey, a 1988 graduate of the MCG School of Medicine who two years ago returned to his hometown of Sandersville to set up an internal medicine practice. "They have done an excellent job of taking care of patients that I have been sending them. It helps me." He and MCG cardiologists discuss his patients on the telephone and often in person during their Thursday visits.

Dr. Cedric Porter, a 1984 graduate of the MCG School of Medicine who has a family practice in Swainsboro, agrees that having the cardiologists there benefits his practice and his relationship with MCG.

"The whole reason to do this is so patients can stay in town and be evaluated by cardiologists," Dr. Rutlen said. "We have an office set up a block away from the hospitals in both cities. We are there all day." The MCG cardiologists also see hospitalized patients if necessary while they are in town.

The off-campus time also provides a teaching opportunity. MCG doctors give talks on cardiology-related topics at the hospitals in Swainsboro and Sandersville. Swainsboro's medical technician also traveled to MCG to learn how to perform ultrasound studies of the heart, helping the two facilities work better together in caring for patients.

"I think the most important thing is the (local) doctors know a cardiologist is there on a regular basis who can see their patients and who they can interact with," Dr. Rutlen said. "We would theoretically consider doing it in any part of the state they wanted us. If a medical staff would like us to see patients, we would aim to accommodate that." ■

School of Medicine Alumni Association Officers, 1993-94

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President-Elect
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Willis E. Lanier, M.D., '69

David M. Cohen, M.D., '63

Dr. Howell Named Pediatric Surgery Chief

Toni Baker

Dr. Charles G. Howell, a 1973 graduate of the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine, has been named chief of the MCG Section of Pediatric Surgery.

Dr. Howell is director of MCG's Pediatric Trauma Center and co-director of the Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenization (ECMO) Program for children in respiratory failure.

After medical school, Dr. Howell completed his general surgery training at MCG, before completing a six-month research fellowship and a two-year pediatric surgery fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania's Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Howell returned to MCG in 1982 as a member of the Section of Pediatric Surgery.

He works with Dr. Robyn Hatley, who completed his general surgery training at MCG in 1986 and a pediatric surgery fellowship at Northwestern University Medical School's Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago before joining the Section of Pediatric Surgery in 1989. ■

Class Notes

Dr. Donald E. Baxter, Houston, has been elected vice president of the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society. He is a clinical professor of orthopaedics and director of the Foot Service and the Foot and Ankle Fellowship at the Baylor College of Medicine.

Dr. John A. Fant, who completed a four-year pathology residency at MCG, is a pathologist at Air University Regional Hospital in Montgomery, Ala., and has been elected a fellow of the College of American Pathologists.

Dr. Isadore Kolman ('38), Lafayette, Calif., has been retired since 1975 but works weekly at the Berkeley Free Clinic in Berkeley, Calif., as senior medical consultant and volunteers at the Alzheimer project in Walnut Creek, Calif.

Dr. William H. Houston ('47) recently retired from an ophthalmology practice and is busy arranging an intern reunion for the class of '47.

Dr. Charles D. Ray ('56), who practices at the Institute for Low Back Care in Minneapolis, was the honored speaker and visiting surgeon at Yonsei University's, Severance Hospital 10th anniversary ceremony in Seoul, Korea April 14. He also lectured, conducted workshops for more than 200 surgeons and performed

instructional surgery for a new spinal fusion device and method of his creation in Japan, Korea, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates during April.

Dr. Benjamin H. Wofford ('62) recently was elected president of the Southeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons at the annual meeting in Hilton Head, S.C.

Dr. James O. Day ('74), Griffin, let his 13-year private practice in internal medicine and has completed a three-year cardiology fellowship at Emory University. He will re-enter private practice in Griffin in September 1993.

Dr. Sylvester McRae ('78) has a private OB/GYN practice in Columbus, Ga. He is chairman of the Department of OB/GYN at the Medical Center in Columbus and is president of the Columbus-Ft. Benning Medical Association. He and wife Rose have children Sylvester II, 14; Kevin Joseph, 12; and Kimberly, 8.

Dr. Christopher U. Cates ('82) of the Atlanta Cardiology Group was director of "Strategies for Success," a conference for cardiologists sponsored by SCIMED Life Systems Inc. The conference, held June 24-26 in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., dealt with health-care reform.

Dr. Eric A. Weiss ('83), has been appointed assistant professor of emergency medicine at Stanford University Medical Center in Palo Alto, Calif. He also is medical director of paramedic training and assistant residency director for the medical center. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Emergency Medicine. He has lectured extensively about emergency, wilderness and marine medicine and has published a book titled "A Comprehensive Guide to Wilderness and Travel Medicine." He is the founder and medical director of Adventure Medical Kits.

Dr. Elizabeth Thomas Delesante ('84) has been named assistant medical director and serves as acting chief of psychiatry at the Brainerd Regional Human Services Center (state hospital) in Baxter, Mn.

Dr. Carol Ann Clough ('89) began a private practice in OB/GYN with a multispecialty group, GHMA in Tucson, Ariz., in August.

Dr. Keith N. Phillippi ('89) completed his residency in anesthesiology at Duke University Medical Center and has returned to his home in Tifton, Ga. He is affiliated with Tifton Anesthesia Associates P.C.

Dr. Clyde Lanford Smith ('89) completed his residency at Boston City Hospital in July 1992 and is now in El Salvador working with the Doctors of the World program. He will return to the United States in August 1994, where he will begin studies at Harvard School of Public Health toward a master's degree in public health.

Dr. Garrick Keith Bailey ('93) and wife Vickie Owneby Bailey live in Augusta.

Dr. James William Barber ('93) is a resident at Georgia Baptist Hospital in Atlanta.

Dr. Thomas Freeman Bradberry ('93) and wife Marcia Bradford Bradberry live in Columbia, S.C., where Dr. Bradberry is a resident at Richland Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Patricia A. Breed Candell ('93) and husband Michael J. Candell live in Martinez, Ga.

Dr. Casandra L. Cansler ('93) is a resident at Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville, N.C.

Dr. Kenneth Jeff Carney ('93) and wife Susan live in Norfolk, Va.

Dr. Devarra Watson Casal ('93) is a resident at MCG and lives in Augusta with husband Louis Adolph Casal.

Dr. Myra Chamblee ('93) is a resident at Mercy Catholic Medical Center in Darby, Pa.

Dr. Glenn Steven Chesser Jr. ('93) is a resident at the Medical Center of Central Macon.

Dr. Ann L. Contrucci ('93) is a resident at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock, Ark., where she lives with husband Todd Shirley.

Dr. Michael A. Coward ('93) is a resident at MCG and lives in Augusta with wife Kathryn.

Dr. Charles A. Craton ('93) lives in Macon, Ga.

Dr. Catherine A. Cupp ('93) is a resident at the Tulane University Medical Center in New Orleans, where she lives in husband Steve.

Dr. Lori Ann Dangler ('93), Gainesville, Fla., is a resident in the University of Florida Department of Anesthesiology.

Dr. Matthew Scott Deich ('93) lives in Atlanta.

Dr. Amanda J. Downs ('93) is a resident in the MCG Department of Internal Medicine.

Dr. John Entrekin ('93) and his wife, ***Dr. Kay Williamson*** ('93), live in Birmingham, Ala.

Dr. Christopher M. Greene ('93) is a resident at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, Ga., where he lives with wife Marianne.

Dr. Charles L. Harris ('93) lives in Savannah, Ga.

Dr. Julia Heffron ('93) is a resident at Tampa General Hospital in Florida.

Dr. Julia Heinz ('93) is a resident in the University Medical Center Department of Pathology in Greenville, N.C., where she lives with her husband, Sean Asquith.

Dr. Christopher Herman ('93) is a resident at the North Carolina Baptist Hospital/Bowman Gray in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Natalie Menendez Hogan ('93) is a resident at Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia, S.C.

Dr. Jeffrey Hom ('93) is a resident in the Wayne State University Department of Emergency Medicine in Detroit.

Dr. Jeana Johnson ('93) lives in Grapevine, Texas.

Dr. Venita Kaul ('93) is a resident at the Children's Hospital Medicine Center of Akron. She lives in Massillon, Ohio with her husband, Brian Scott Bules.

Dr. Mojgan Khatami ('93) is a resident in the MCG Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology.

Dr. Stephen D. Kicklighter ('93) is a resident at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Dr. Glen Andrew Luehrman ('93) is a resident at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta.

Dr. Douglas W. Lundy ('93) is a resident at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta.

Dr. Mark William McCord ('93) is a resident in the Univerity of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology.

Dr. Chris McElroy ('93) is a resident at MCG.

Dr. Philip James McGahn ('93) is a resident at Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Philip Craig Mehaffey ('93) is a resident in the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics Department of Pathology.

Dr. Kelli Carter Mooney ('93) is a resident in the MCG Department of Family Medicine and lives in Warrenton, Ga., with husband Gary.

Dr. Mary Celeste Mullinax ('93) is a resident in the MCG Department of Emergency Medicine and lives in Martinez, Ga., with husband Robert A. Mullinax.

Dr. S. Clark Newton ('93) lives in Nashville, Tenn., with wife Andrea.

Dr. John Gray Norris ('93) is a resident at Bowman Gray/North Carolina Baptist in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Gregory T. Rainwater ('93) is a resident at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, Ga., where he lives with wife Christy.

Dr. Tracy Reece Ray ('93) is a resident at the University of Alabama College of Common Health Sciences in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he lives with De'ette Marie Ray.

Dr. Ammar Razzak ('93) is a resident in the Erlanger Medical Center Department of Internal Medicine in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Dr. Tracy R. Salenger ('93) is a resident in the MCG Department of Family Medicine and lives in Martinez, Ga., with husband Mickey C. Barefield.

Dr. Alan M. Sanders ('93) is a resident at The Medical Center, Inc., in Columbus, Ga., where he lives with wife Jennifer.

Dr. Mary Page Seckman ('93) is a resident in the Bowman Gray School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics in Winston-Salem, N.C., where she lives with her husband, Dr. Christopher M. Herman.

Dr. Reed W. Seligman ('93) is a resident in the University of Florida Department of Medicine in Gainesville, where he lives with wife Crystal.

Dr. Michael M. Shin ('93) is a resident in the Crozer Chester Medical Center Department of Medicine in Upland, Pa.

Dr. Rekha Sinha ('93) lives in Carrollton, Ga.

Dr. Deirdre K. Smith ('93) is a resident in the Emory University Hospital and Clinics Department of Pediatrics and lives in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Dr. Sandra (Sandy) M. Smith ('93) lives in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Dr. Kevin Stabile ('93) lives in Tampa, Fla., with wife Stacy Marantz Stabile.

Dr. Douglas John Thompson ('93) is a resident in the Emory University Department of Family Medicine and lives in Decatur, Ga.

Dr. Stephen J. Thompson ('93) is a resident in the Medical University of South Carolina Department of Pediatrics and lives in Mt. Pleasants, S.C.

Dr. Peyam Vafadari ('93) lives in Marietta, Ga.

Dr. Todd Raymond Vasko ('93) is a resident in the Medical University of South Carolina Department of Pediatrics in Charleston, where he lives with wife S. Lisa Vasko.

Dr. Timothy M. Wallace ('93) is a resident at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta where he lives with wife Virginia, also a resident at Emory.

Dr. Kevin D. Webster ('93) is a resident at the Medical Center of Central Georgia Internal Medicine Residency Program in Macon.

Dr. Mary Kathryn Whitten ('93) is a resident in the Carolinas Medical Center Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology in Charlotte, N.C.

Dr. John Thomas Williams IV ('93) is a resident at the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon, where he lives with wife Amy Maurizi Williams.

Obituaries

Dr. Harry E Burkett ('52), director of the Anesthesiology Block Clinic at Scott & White Hospital in Temple, Texas, died June 11, 1993.

Dr. G. Edward Rozar ('73) died July 17, 1993. Dr. Rozar's battle with AIDS, likely acquired while performing surgery, was chronicled in the 1992 annual report edition of Medical College of Georgia Today. He is survived by a wife and five children in Marshfield, Wis.

Dr. David R. Weaver ('88), a family practice physician in Carrollton, Ga., died May 4, 1993. Survivors include his wife, Betsy H. Weaver, daughter Holly, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Weaver of Ellijay, Ga. Donations to the Holly Weaver College Fund may be sent to Dr. Paul Walls, 601 Dixie St., Carrollton, Ga., 30117, (404) 832-6123.

Alumni Association Beating Bushes for Lost Alums

By Glenn Hudson

Diane Hilson's first term as president of the MCG School of Nursing Alumni Association has been like looking for lost sheep.

She plans to continue that theme as she begins her second term with renewed vigor to find lost alumni and invite them to join the association.

"Our biggest goal right now is to find lost alumni. There are over 4,000 grads and we only have 400 members in the alumni association," said Ms. Hilson, head nurse on 3-North at the MCG Hospital and Clinics. "We are trying to find where everybody is and provide them with information of what we are all about."

What the MCG School of Nursing Alumni Association is all about is helping students. "We sponsor two lunch-and-learn programs (for students) dealing with advanced practice and clinical procedures. This year, we plan to expand our program in the Athens area," she said.

The association is in a position to help students financially as well. "We have a best-thesis award, a rising-senior scholarship and several endowment funds through the alumni association that the school has established in honor of different faculty members that are very nice," she said. "We want an opportunity to get more money so that we can do more for the students."

The association's goal is to double its membership. Ms. Hilson has enjoyed the challenge. "It's really special for me to get involved with the school. You get to work a lot with the dean, and that is something that I enjoy," she said. ■

Diane Hilson

11 Nursing Students Honored

Eleven Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing students were honored during the school's 13th annual honors convocation June 5.

Susan Burgess Johnson of Augusta won the $100 Dean's Award for Best Essay by Senior Student and the Community Nursing Clinical Practice Award.

Lenna Ann Wegener of Bogart, Ga., won a $100 clinical practice award for patient care, donated by Dean Emerita E. Louise Grant.

Elisabeth Winter Claussen of Augusta, Laura Allison Menger of Augusta and Ingle Brandan Owens of Alpharetta, Ga., won the Hildegard Peplau Award from the Department of Mental Health-Psychiatric Nursing.

Nancy R. Bennett of Evans, Ga., won the $100 Alumni Award for Best Thesis. Her thesis was titled "Parenting a Child in the Hospital: Factors Influencing Maternal Role Alteration Stress."

Deborah A. Natvig of Greenwood, S.C., won the first annual Drs. Vickie A. and Clinton E. Lambert Nursing Scholarship Fund award of $500.

Catherine S. Barnes of Augusta won the $500 Marilyn Chew Lunn Memorial Award in Oncology Nursing Research.

Lois T. El of New Ellenton, S.C., won the Leilee P. Ault Clinical Excellence in Graduate Adult Nursing Award.

Traci Leigh Griffis of Augusta won the $500 Betty M. Golden Scholarship Award.

Kathleen Maria Roberts of Thomson, Ga., won the Spirit of Nursing Award from the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. ■

Ms. House Wins National Organization's Highest Honor

Toni Baker

Mary Anne House, administrator of Medical College of Georgia Organ and Tissue Donor Services, has received the 1993 Excellence in Management Award, the highest honor from the Association of

Organ Procurement Organizations.

Ms. House is a graduate of the bachelor's and master's degree programs in nursing at MCG. She has worked with organ procurement at MCG since 1979 and has served as administrator of the program since 1985.

She is involved extensively with national and regional efforts for organ and tissue procurement including serving as a member of the Southeastern Organ Procurement Foundation's Education, Procurement/Preservation and Data Acquisition committees.

She is a member of the North American Transplant Coordinators Organization's Education Committee and the American Association of Tissue Banks' Program Committee. She is a member of the board of governors and chairman of the continuing certification committee of the American Board of Transplant Coordinators, the certifying body for organ procurement and clinical transplant coordinators.

Ms. House also represents organ procurement organizations on the Georgia Governor's Advisory Board on Anatomical Gifts. ■

MCG Helps Implement Prenatal Center in Jefferson County

Christine Hurley Deriso

The Medical College of Georgia is helping to fund a prenatal center in Jefferson County that began operating May 24.

The center, located at Jefferson Hospital in Louisville, Ga., provides prenatal care for residents in the county, regardless of their ability to pay, who plan to give birth in the Medical College of Georgia Hospital.

First-year operating costs—which include the salaries of a registered nurse and a nurse practitioner who will staff the center—will be funded through a portion of MCG Hospital's Indigent Care Trust Fund, administered through the MCG School of Nursing Rural Health Outreach Program. The Rural Health Outreach Program, funded by a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Mich., combines various efforts to improve health care and the infant mortality rate in Jefferson County, the fifth most economically disadvantaged county in the state.

The center's staff will provide a full range of prenatal services, including pregnancy tests, examinations, education, childbirth classes and even transportation to and from the center, if necessary. The center's hours are weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. A maternal-fetal medical specialist at MCG will consult with the nurse practitioner. All high-risk pregnancies or emergency situations will be referred to a physician.

Most prenatal care for Jefferson County Medicaid patients has previously been provided by the county's health department, which offers prenatal services two days a month. The health department has supported MCG and Jefferson Hospital in their move to implement the daily services the center will provide, according to Rita Culvern, administrator and chief executive officer of Jefferson Hospital.

"The health department has been a hundred percent supportive," Ms. Culvern said. "They've always provided excellent care, but they recognize the need to improve availability, access and convenience. That's the purpose of the new center. We'll be open five days a week, and the patients will have appointments. It will be more like a physician's office practice, and hopefully, the patients will find it more convenient."

For more information about the center, contact Ms. Culvern at (912) 625-7000. ■

Ms. Reardon Honored by Diabetes Association

Ingrid Heggoy

Anne Whittington Reardon, coordinator of outreach diabetes education at the Medical College of Georgia, has been named the National Diabetes Educator of the Year by the American Association of Diabetes Educators.

She was chosen for her work in the field, such as organizing coordinated diabetes education programs for health-care professionals throughout the state and creating materials for diabetics with low literacy or low vision. She also organized an Augusta-area diabetes support group and has published articles in national journals on various diabetes-related topics. She was selected from more than 400 applicants, representing all 50 states and health-care disciplines, including medicine, nursing, dietetics and pharmacy.

Ms. Reardon received $1,000 plus a $5,000 travel grant from Lifescan, Inc., a company that makes home blood-glucose monitoring equipment, to speak to local and state diabetes professional groups throughout the United States. She is planning to speak on topics such as developing computer-aided instruction in diabetes care; low vision; and low literacy and diabetes.

Ms. Reardon is a certified diabetes educator. She received a master's degree in nursing from the Medical College of Georgia. ■

Class Notes

Marjorie Bartels DesRosier ('75) is an organizational consultant in Seattle, Wash., and received a Ph.D. in nursing June 1993 from the University of Washington School of Nursing in Seattle.

Julie A. Sorrells (BSN, '88) graduated May 16 from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with an MSN degree and was awarded her anesthesia certificate in August. She joined Wake Anesthesiology Associates in Raleigh, N.C., as a CRNA in September.

Sara Service Wiggins (BSN, '89), Tignall, Ga., is trauma nurse coordinator at MCG and is earning her master's degree in nursing at MCG. She and ***Deborah A. Hawkins*** (MSN, '91), a clinical nurse specialist in emergency services at MCG, have become Georgia's only two emergency nurse pediatric course instructors. They will coordinate the first ENPC course this fall at MCG.

Obituaries

Kelly Ball Greene (BSN, '82) was killed in a sky-diving accident May 23, 1993. She had married Michael Greene in 1991 and lived in Roswell, Ga. She earned a master's degree from Emory in 1992 and worked at the Women's Clinic at Crawford Long. She was training to become a case manager.

Sharon Lee Frey (89) of Athens, Ga., died June 18, 1993 at age 51. Ms. Frey, a native of Ranier, Ore., was a registered nurse at St. Mary's Hospital Home Health Care. Survivors include her parents, a daughter and a son.

School of Nursing Alumni Association Officers, 1993-94

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Diane Hilson

Vice President
Carolyn Gaffney

Treasurer
Carol Norman

Chairman of Membership Committee
Eugene Murdock

Nomination Committee
Ginger Marshall
Roslyn Marshall
Betty Till

Retiring from the School of Dentistry are Drs. Wade Hammer, James Keagle, Jack Sherrer, Jackie Weatherred and Earl Williams.

Dr. Hammer, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery in the dental school and professor of surgery in the School of Medicine Department of Surgery, earned his dental degree from Emory University and joined MCG as an assistant professor in 1968. He was named associate professor in 1971 and professor in 1976.

Dr. Keagle, associate professor of periodontics, earned his dental degree from the University of Pittsburgh and was named a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology in 1968.

Dr. Sherrer, associate professor of oral rehabilitation, earned his dental degree from Baylor University and joined MCG as an assistant professor in 1972. He was named associate professor of restorative dentistry in 1977 and of oral rehabilitation in 1992.

Dr. Weatherred, professor of oral biology/physiology and director of the dental school's graduate programs, earned his dental degree from the University of Texas Dental Branch and a Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Texas Medical Branch. He joined MCG as an associate professor in 1969 and was named professor in 1974.

Dr. Williams, professor and chairman of community dentistry, earned his dental degree from the University of Tennessee and a doctorate in public health from the University of North Carolina. He was name a diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health in 1966. He joined MCG in 1969.

Retiring from the School of Medicine are Dr. Martin J. Frank, Dr. Fares John, Dr. Geoffrey E. King, Dr. Thomas F. McDonald, Dr. Luther B. Otken Jr., Dr. Robert A. Parrish Jr., Benjamin O. Spurlock and Gladys L. Williams.

Dr. Frank, professor of medicine and radiology, earned a medical degree from the University of Michigan and joined the MCG faculty as an associate professor of medicine and director of the hemodynamic laboratories in 1967. He was named professor of medicine in 1969 and professor of radiology in 1985. He served as chief of MCG's Section of Cardiology from 1978 to 1985 and from 1986 to 1990.

Dr. John, associate professor emeritus of pathology, earned a medical degree from the University of Cartagena Medical School and joined MCG in 1967 as an assistant professor of pathology. He served as acting director of laboratory medicine at MCG from 1968 to 1971. He was named associate professor in 1970 and has served as the senior faculty in charge of microbiology and hematology.

Dr. King, associate professor of medicine, physiology and biomedical engineering, earned a medical degree from the Charing Cross Hospital Medical School at the University of London and joined MCG as an associate in medicine in 1959. He returned to London in 1963, then rejoined the MCG faculty in 1967 as an assistant professor of medicine (cardiology.) He was named associate professor of biomedical engineering and physiology in 1970.

Dr. McDonald, professor of anatomy and associate dean for student affairs in the MCG School of Medicine, earned a Ph.D. in anatomy from Loyola University's Stritch School of Medicine and joined MCG as assistant professor of anatomy in 1965. He was named associate professor in 1968 and professor in 1974. He served as acting chairman of the Department of Anatomy from 1971 to 1975.

Dr. Otken, associate professor of pathology, earned a medical degree from the University of Tennessee and joined MCG in 1966 as pathology instructor. He was named assistant professor in 1968, director of the Division of Surgical Pathology in 1969 and associate professor in 1971.

Dr. Parrish, professor and chief of the Section of Pediatric Surgery, earned a medical degree from MCG. He received MCG's Excellence in Teaching Award in 1966 and 1969 and was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1966.

Mr. Spurlock, associate professor of pathology, earned a bachelor's degree in science from Tulane University and joined MCG as an assistant professor in 1975. He was named associate professor and director of MCG's Electron Microscopy Laboratory in 1987.

Ms. Williams, assistant professor of psychiatry, earned master's degrees in science and social work from Louisiana State University and in public health from Tulane University. She joined MCG in 1965 and is a field instructor in the University of Georgia School of Social Work. ■

Five Receive Outstanding Faculty Awards

Christine Hurley Deriso

The Medical College of Georgia presented Outstanding Faculty Awards to a faculty member from each of its five schools during MCG's faculty assembly meeting May 20.

Abdul Hamid Shaikh, associate professor of medical technology, was honored by the School of Allied Health Sciences. Mr. Shaikh, who also is graduate program director of the Department of Medical Technology, earned master's degrees in biochemistry from the University of Karachi in Pakistan and in endocrinology from MCG. He joined the MCG faculty as an instructor in 1974 and was named associate professor in the schools of allied health sciences and graduate studies in 1984.

Dr. Frederick Rueggeberg, associate professor of dental materials, was honored by the School of Dentistry. Dr. Rueggeberg, who earned his dental degree from Emory University and a master's degree in biomaterials from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, joined the MCG faculty in 1987.

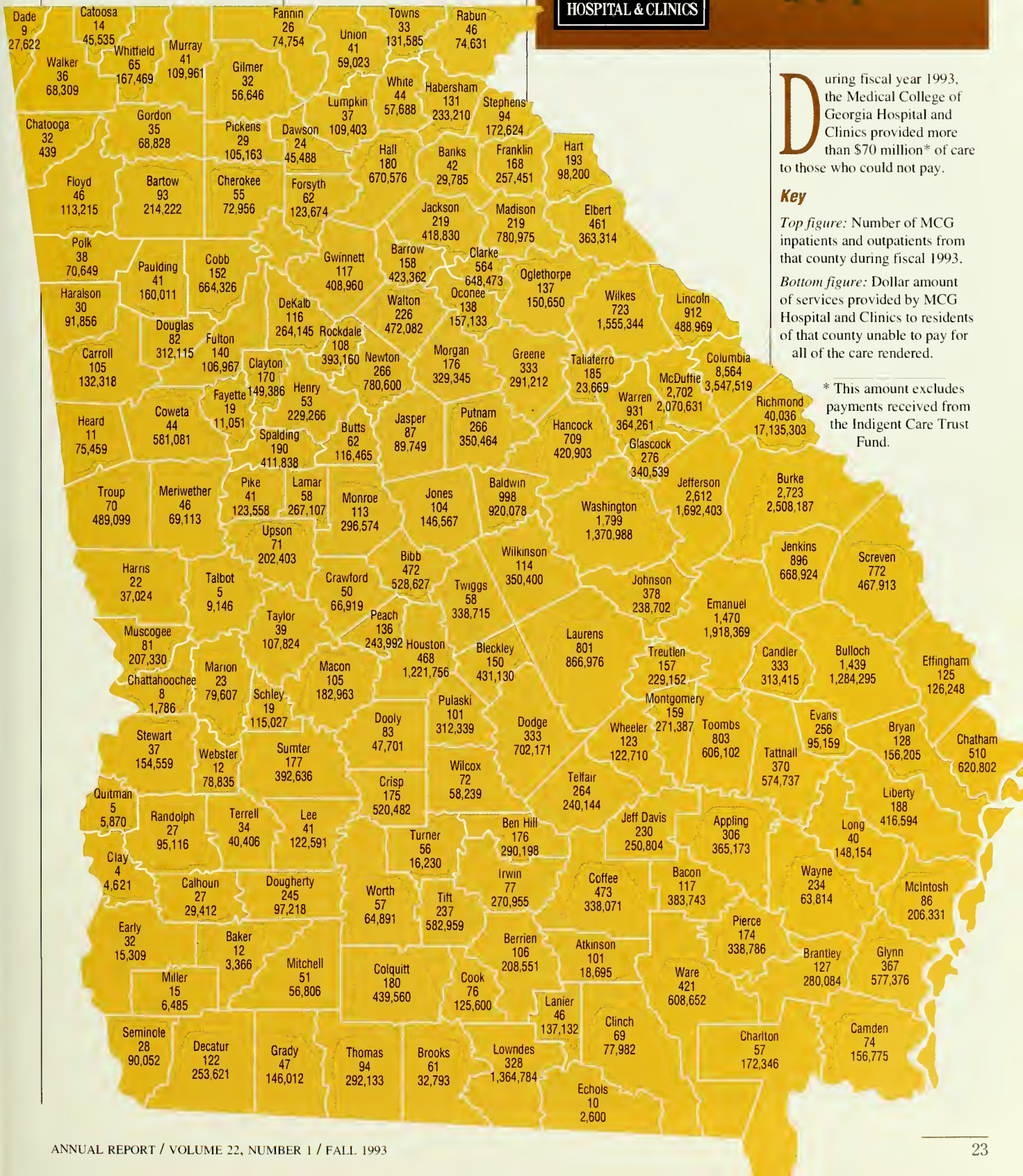
The School of Graduate Studies honored Dr. Gloria M. Clayton, professor of adult nursing at MCG and senior research scientist at the University of Georgia Gerontology Center. Dr. Clayton, who earned a master's degree in nursing from MCG and a doctorate from the University of South Carolina, joined MCG as an assistant professor in 1978.

The School of Medicine honored Dr. Charles H. Wray, interim dean of the school and vice chairman of surgery. Dr. Wray joined MCG in 1964 as an instructor in surgery, was named professor in 1974, vice chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1985 and chief of the Section of General Surgery in 1987. In addition to his current position as interim dean of the school, he served as interim dean from 1988 to 1989. He also served as chief of staff for the MCG Hospital from 1977 to 1985.

The School of Nursing honored Dr. Nancy Williamson, director and principal investigator of the school's Rural Health Outreach Program. Dr. Williamson earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the MCG School of Nursing and earned a Ph.D. in educational administration from Georgia State University. She joined the MCG faculty in 1983. ■

THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
The Health Sciences University of the State of Georgia
HOSPITAL & CLINICS

Annual Report



During fiscal year 1993, the Medical College of Georgia Hospital and Clinics provided more than $70 million* of care to those who could not pay.

Key

Top figure: Number of MCG inpatients and outpatients from that county during fiscal 1993.

Bottom figure: Dollar amount of services provided by MCG Hospital and Clinics to residents of that county unable to pay for all of the care rendered.

* This amount excludes payments received from the Indigent Care Trust Fund.

...continued from page 10

patient care to their practices. The MCG Consult Line has grown in the number of recorded calls and the number of health professionals using the service.

Faculty and Staff

A total of 883 physicians and dentists served on the medical and dental staff during the fiscal year. Fifty-three new faculty members were granted hospital privileges. The hospital and clinics' full-time employees total 3,731, including house staff and medical staff.

Ambulatory care staffing was formally reorganized, with every position reviewed and updated to ensure responsiveness to the unique needs of every patient.

In October, every ACC employee participated in a training program to stress the hospital's principles of service excellence and a patient-friendly environment. The employees meet monthly with hospital administration to discuss problems identified in the initial training program. Phase II of the program will include training employees to continue the program throughout the hospital and clinics.

MCG Hospital and Clinics was one of 30 hospitals participating in the 1993 University Hospital Consortium patient-centered care survey program. The survey was the second phase of the consortium's nationwide effort to compare patients' hospital experiences and their perceptions of care. When results are available, participating hospital representatives can network to develop benchmarks for providing patient-centered care.

Departments throughout the hospital and clinics reported healthy prognoses based on reduced staff turnover during fiscal 1993. In the Department of Nursing, the turnover rate decreased to 14 percent, 4 percent less than last year. Physical and occupational therapy departments and respiratory care services also reported successful retention efforts.

Research and Scholarly Activity

MCG Hospital and Clinics shares the university's commitment to become a premier research institution in the South. Registered nurses in the Department of Nursing are actively involved in research investigations related to patient care and staff education. In the ACC, laboratory space and the exclusive use of one examination room in the Dermatology Practice Site is devoted to clinical trials. The physical therapy department is participating in a project with the Department of Neurology testing a drug to treat amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

In the pharmacy department, 21 new investigational drug studies were initiated, 29 studies continued from the previous year, five compassionate-use drugs were made available and 11 National Cancer Institute medications were used for numerous protocols.

Community Service

MCG's service to the community was demonstrated through such efforts as a postpartum family outreach program, providing education and support to postpartum patients and families; the Baby Connection, providing prepared childbirth classes including free breast-feeding classes; a community health fair, co-sponsored by the Physicians Practice Group and the Red Cross, in which health screenings and information were provided to 1,100 people; and a hepatitis seminar for health-care professionals statewide co-sponsored by employee health and hospital epidemiology.

A program provided through the Department of Volunteer Services, "CMC and Me," acquainted 2,000 area kindergarten children with the process of hospitalization. The department also offers a literacy program for MCG employees and a helping-hands program to share holiday cheer and other help for selected MCG families.

The MCG Hospital and Clinics is a vital part of the regional community and the state. It and its people serve their constituents well. ■

Inaugural "Brown Bag Boogie" at the Terrace Garden

Family Assumes Center Stage at CMC

Picture a hospital from a young child's perspective: an endless maze of doors and boxy, white rooms; an army of towering, uniform-clad adults; a sea of frightening equipment and machinery.

The scenery isn't much brighter from the point of view of their parents, who tend to perceive hospitals as clinical, fast-moving and esoteric places where they are largely in the way, even when the patient is their child.

The Medical College of Georgia Children's Medical Center is on a fast track toward obliterating that perception, according to Pat Findling-Sodomka, administrator of the CMC.

The CMC has always been committed to making hospitalization as pleasant as possible for children, Ms. Sodomka said, citing features such as vividly colored walls, a playroom full of toys and a child-life team to meet patients' developmental needs. But the center is going further, with an eye toward the realization that a child's chief care-givers are his parents.

"With children, you're treating the whole family," said Jan Parsons, chairman of the hospital's Family-Centered Care Committee. "The family is the constant in the child's life. Family-centered care recognizes that. It's a change in attitude and perspective."

Hospitals traditionally have been designed to maximize the convenience of health-care personnel, she said. But the CMC's new philosophy of family-centered care shifts the focus to the family.

Family-centered care, a concept spearheaded by then-U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop in the late 1980s, places parents or guardians front and center in their child's care rather than relegating them to the background. In January, Bev Johnson, president of the Institute for Family-Centered Care, visited MCG to suggest ways to fully implement the concept into the CMC's pediatric clinics.

"She pointed out things like entrances: Are they welcoming, or are they a little intimidating?" Ms. Sodomka said. "Are the signs easy to read? Are staff members friendly and helpful?"

The CMC staff is in the process of implementing the institute's recommendations. Many should be completed within a year, although some—such as recruiting staff with a family-centered perspective—will be ongoing.

The staff seized the opportunity during Ms. Johnson's visit to adapt the philosophy to every aspect of child care at the CMC, including the upcoming new hospital. The CMC administration sponsored sessions in March to educate its health-care providers about family-centered care. Also in March, the staff held a retreat, inviting a group of patients' parents and other members of the community, to brainstorm about how to maximize family-centered care, especially in the new facility.

"We wanted to understand our philosophy of care before we put the first pencil to paper to design the building," Ms. Sodomka said. "The environment really does contribute to the perception of care and how it's delivered."

The committee sponsored a parent-professional workshop in September and is developing a parents' manual as another resource to welcome their participation in the process of their children's care.

And the new CMC will reflect the input of the parents who serve on the committee. The facility, for instance, will have storage space for family belongings, bulletin boards posting items of interest to families (medical updates or support-group notices, for instance) and single-patient rooms with a bed for at least one parent.

Also planned is a library for parents, supplementing a medical professionals' library, that will help parents learn more about their child's condition if they choose.

"Most parents want information once they get over the initial shock of finding out their child has a disease. The more they know, the more they can help," said Dr. P. Charlton Davis,

Medical College of Georgia

Children's Medical Center®

Statement of Values

Editor's note: The CMC has developed the following value statement to reflect its philosophy of honoring each child and family as unique and respecting their values, needs, environments, cultures, resources and strengths.

The CMC believes:

- In empowering all employees to be family-centered, in an environment where education and employee development is valued;
- In providing a healing environment:
  - that offers access to friendly, natural environments appropriate to the developmental needs of children,
  - where the daily needs of families are met in a comfortable and nurturing way,
  - where procedures are performed with respect for the dignity of children and families as well as the privacy and psychological well-being of individuals, and
  - that promotes family-to-family support and networking;
- In education and research programs for students and professionals that incorporate family-centered values;
- In the participation of community-based physicians, health-care professionals, community service providers, families and other members of local communities in carrying out the mission of the Children's Medical Center;
- That the exchange of information with families and across disciplines in the hospital and community is essential to promote the health and well-being of children;
- That policies based on family-centered care concepts promote efficiency, cost effectiveness, quality care and flexibility.

a pediatric hematologist-oncologist at the CMC and chairman of the Public Areas and Children's Environment Committee. The committee is one of six within the space-planning organization for the new children's hospital.

Such adaptations will serve all patients well, Ms. Sodomka said, especially those with conditions that require extended hospitalization. The hospital staff also will benefit, she said.

"In family-centered units, staff satisfaction tends to improve because family members who participate in decision-making related to their child's care are more satisfied and have a higher level of communication and trust with staff members," she said.

The CMC staff has enthusiastically embraced family-centered care, Ms. Sodomka said. "The degree to which our organization has adopted this philosophy has surprised me," she said. "I think everybody sees the need."

Dr. Davis echoes the sentiments. "The family as a unit should be respected," he said. "If the unit can pull together when a child becomes ill, it promotes healing. I think that's what family-centered care is all about." ■

—CHRISTINE HURLEY DERISO

Condolences

The Medical College of Georgia community extends its most heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Debbie Matthei and Art Hardy. Ms. Matthei, 43, a registered nurse, and Mr. Hardy, 35, a respiratory therapist, were killed in a plane crash while transporting a newborn infant from Adel, Ga., to MCG for treatment. Both had worked at MCG since 1991.

"Tragedy does not seem sufficient to describe what has happened," said R. Edward Howell, executive director of the MCG Hospital and Clinics. "We can only extend our sympathies to the families and friends of our employees and to the family of the baby and the pilot who were lost. Our employees will be missed and remembered at the Medical College of Georgia Hospital and the Children's Medical Center." ■

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Medical College of Georgia

Summary Statement of Current Funds Revenues, Expenditures and Other Changes
Year Ended June 30, 1993
(With Comparative Figures for 1992)

	1993			
	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**	**1992 Total**
REVENUE				
Student Tuition and Fees	$ 6,650,215.60	$	$ 6,650,215.60	$ 5,585,450.90
State Appropriations	108,906,078.00		108,906,078.00	100,119,228.00
Federal Appropriations				
Local Appropriations				
Federal Grants and Contracts	540,106.98	8,720,466.85	9,260,573.83	8,020,844.93
State Grants and Contracts	10,219.94	8,844,136.05	8,854,355.99	8,777,799.68
Local Grants and Contracts		619,013.69	619,013.69	426,937.03
Private Gifts, Grants and Contracts	161,311.57	31,087,583.83	31,248,895.40	25,390,171.41
Investment Income				
Endowment Income		111,265.73	111,265.73	70,042.62
Sales and Services of Educational Departments	196,426,585.44		196,426,585.44	172,783,679.43
Sales and Services of Auxiliary Enterprises	6,149,434.04		6,149,434.04	5,943,199.67
Other Sources	108,586.63		108,586.63	304,145.13
TOTAL CURRENT REVENUES	**318,952,538.20**	**49,382,466.15**	**368,335,004.35**	**327,421,498.80**
EXPENDITURES AND MANDATORY TRANSFERS				
Educational and General				
Instruction	249,690,419.57	36,755,103.90	286,445,523.47	255,143,777.67
Research	52,744.00	10,647,514.74	10,700,258.74	10,012,879.40
Public Service				
Academic Support	6,912,272.95	238,105.53	7,150,378.48	7,109,938.77
Student Services	1,342,598.87	13,143.43	1,355,742.30	1,351,699.29
Institutional Support	19,708,536.61	649,275.55	20,357,812.16	21,344,743.74
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	21,527,330.59		21,527,330.59	16,881,673.70
Scholarships and Fellowships	554,626.56	1,079,323.00	1,633,949.56	1,066,166.10
Total Educational and General Expenditures	**299,788,529.15**	**49,382,466.15**	**349,170,995.30**	**312,910,878.67**
Mandatory Transfers				
Loan Fund Matching				
Investment Income for Principal				
Total Educational and General	**299,788,529.15**	**49,382,466.15**	**349,170,995.30**	**312,910,878.67**
Auxiliary Expenses	5,624,714.34		5,624,714.34	5,508,804.05
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND MANDATORY TRANSFERS	**305,413,243.49**	**49,382,466.15**	**354,795,709.64**	**318,419,682.72**
OTHER TRANSFERS AND CHANGES				
Excess Restricted Receipts Over Transfers to Revenues				(566,558.68)
Non-Mandatory Transfers	(15,444,471.70)		(15,444,471.70)	(634,120.24)
Adjustments—Prior Year	755,576.33		755,576.33	325,672.26
Lapse of Surplus—Prior Year				
To State	(667,083.89)		(667,083.89)	(53,227.37)
To Health Insurance Review				(1,474,934.32)
TOTAL OTHER TRANSFERS AND CHANGES	**(15,355,979.26)**		**(15,355,979.26)**	**(2,403,168.35)**
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCES	**(1,816,684.55)**		**(1,816,684.55)**	**6,598,647.73**

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